STAPLETON POW DEPOT, BRISTOL 1812

Stapleton was a village some 3 miles from the centre of Bristol. It was one of the smaller depots originally used for French naval prisoners but was extended and also took in military men. After the Treaty of Amiens it was one of the last to close.

A Monsieur
Monsieur Jean Devent
Résidant à la Commune
de Chasselet
arrondissement de St Benoite
dépte de Indre
Ms Chasselet

Unpaid EL to Chasselet, Indre charged 8d, written by Jean Devente, Soldat 20eme Regt de Ligne, from Stapleton 10th Aug 1812.

The letter to his father tells of his capture in Spain and incarceration at Stapleton since the previous December. He advises that it is best to send his reply within an outer envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Marine at Morlaix, Finistere which would only have to be paid to Morlaix.

Boer War.

20th Sep '01 Rotterdam to Ragama Camp, Ceylon 13th Oct '01.

ABWPS Handbook Censor Type 1.

G. P. RAPKIN LTD.
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Boer War

22nd Nov 1899 from Pretoria to Bristol DE 25.

This tattered cover was probably sent by an officer's servant from the State Model School, Pretoria where officers captured early in the War were held prisoner. The Commandant General cachet is counter-signed by M.T. Stiemans a Republican Post Office Official.

G.F. RAPKIN LTD.
PRINTED AND MADE IN ENGLAND

Boer War.

13th Dec '01 Mooi River, Natal to Diyatalawa Camp, Ceylon 3rd Jan '02.

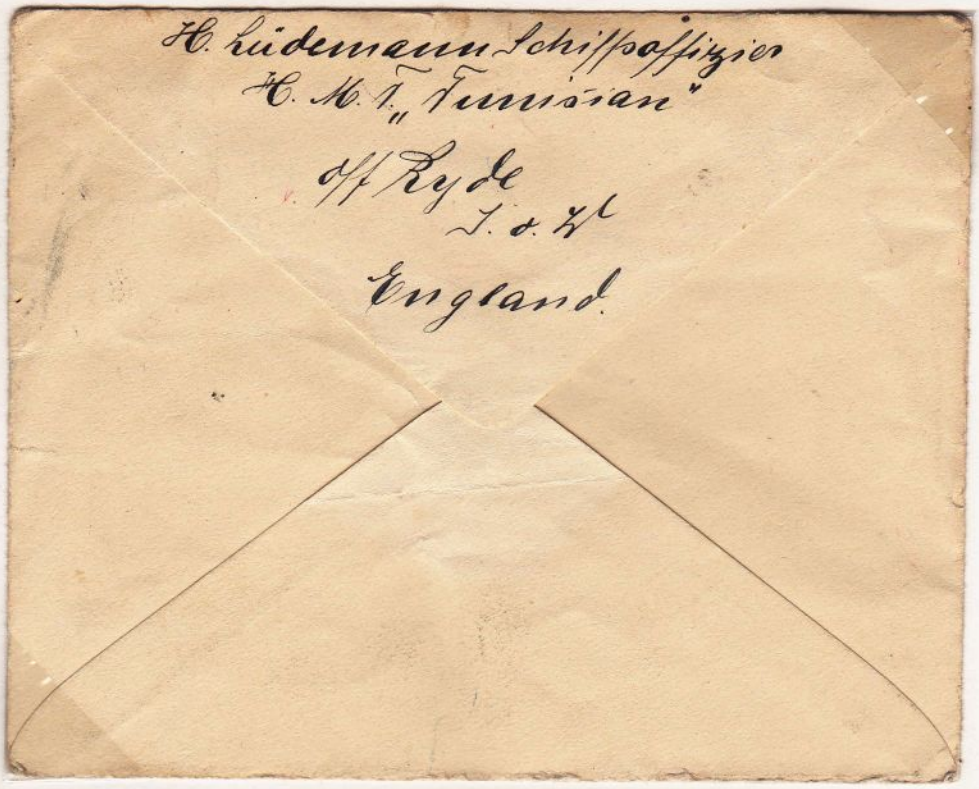
Diyatalawa some 140 miles from Colombo was chosen for the first Boer prisoner of war camp. The first batch arrived on the 9th Aug 1900 and others followed until some 5,000 had landed.

ABWPS Handbook Censor Type 1.

G. F. RAPKIN LTD.
PRINTED AND MADE IN ENGLAND

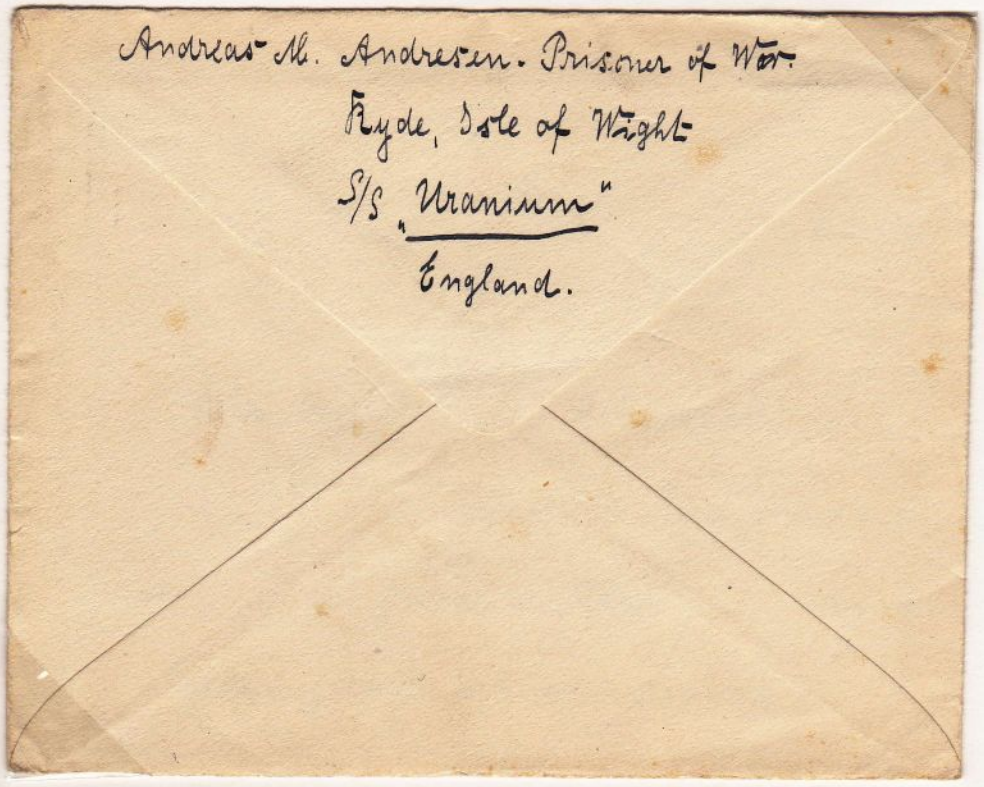
The Solent Squadron.

Censored POW stationery cover from HMT TUNISIAN at Ryde to Germany.


H. Lüdemann Schiffsoffizier
H. M. T. „Tunisian"
c/o Ryde
I. of W.
England.

By February 1915 the Tunisian was no longer required.

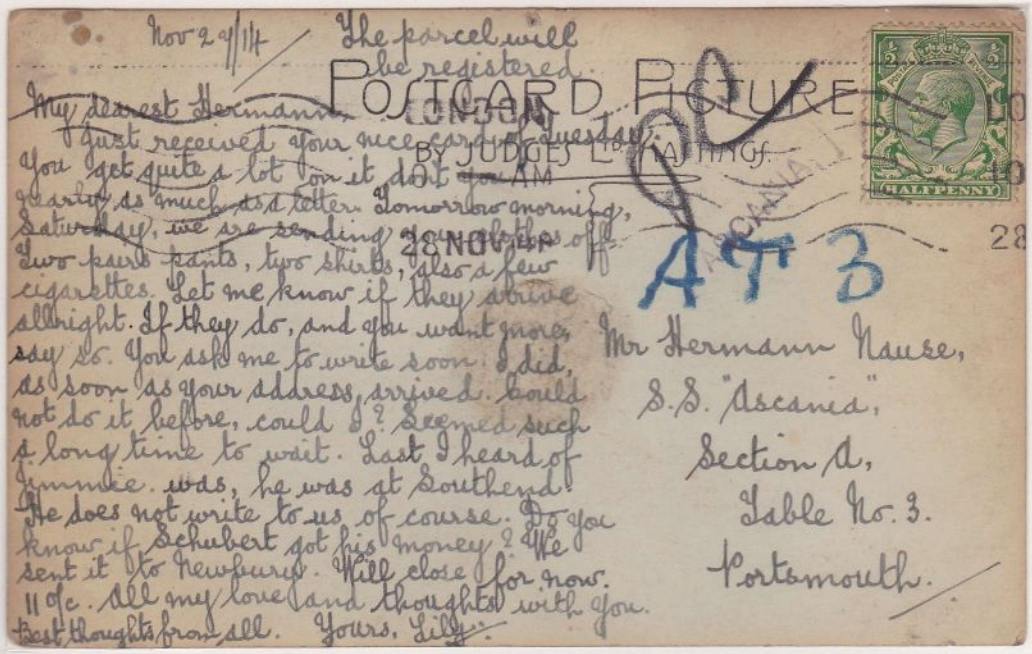
1915, 5th May. Censored POW cover from HMT URANIUM, Ryde to Germany.


Andreas M. Andresen. Prisoner of War.
Ryde, Isle of Wight
S/S „Uranium"
England.

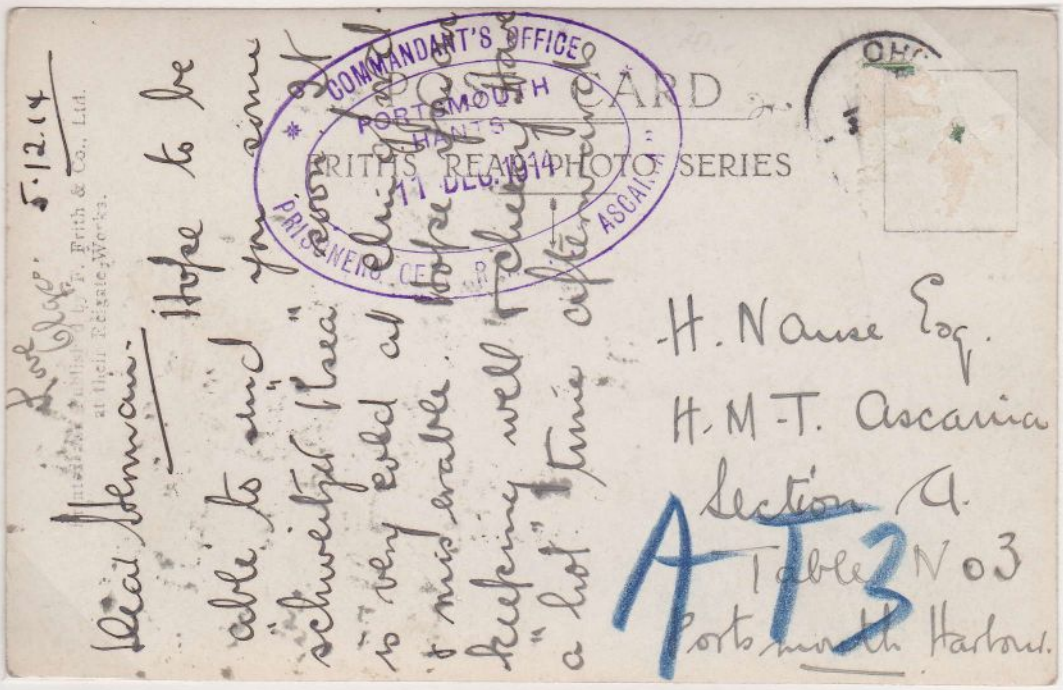
The Uranium replaced the Lake Manitoba in early April 1915 and was the last ship to be released.

The Solent Squadron.

1914, 28th Nov. Ingoing postcard from London to internee on HMT ASCANIA, Portsmouth. The card bears an unrecorded censor marking, PC in manuscript above handstruck ASCANIA.



1914, 11th Dec. Ingoing postcard from Chingford to internee on ASCANIA with large oval cachet of Commandant's Office with Portsmouth, Hants., and date in inner oval. The stamp has been removed during censorship.



By March 1915 the Ascania held 1397 men. At that date the oval cachet gave the location as Ryde and by April she was no longer required.

Japan

1915, 8th June. Postcard from Berlin to P.O.W. Osaka. Superscription 'Taxfrei über Schweden'

The card is addressed to an Artilleryman, probably a member of the Marine Artillery from Tsingtau.

The prisoners from Tsingtau arrived at Osaka on 16th Nov 1914 and were transferred to Ninoshima on 16th Feb 1917. They numbered 536 Germans with 28 officers, 9 Austrians with 2 officers.

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Japan

1916, 9th Mar. Postcard from Narashino P.O.W. Camp to Stettin.

Narashino opened 7.9.15 and at the above date held 125 Marines and 120 OMD Tientsin.

1917, 17th July. Postcard from Bando P.O.W. Camp to Tokio.

At this time Bando held 938 German prisoners with 20 officers.

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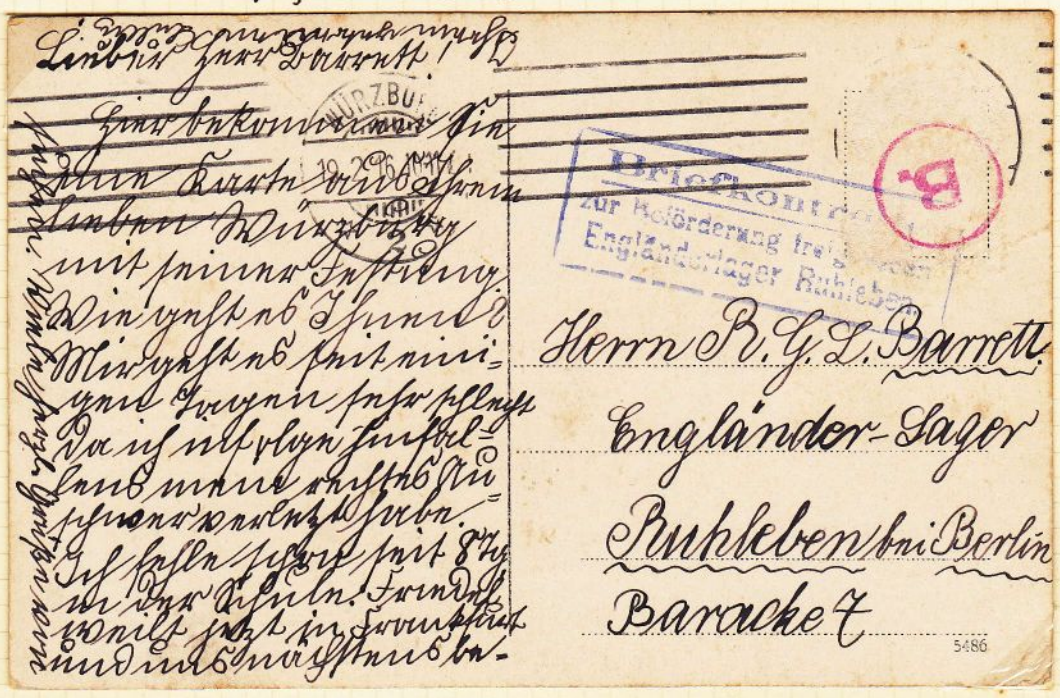
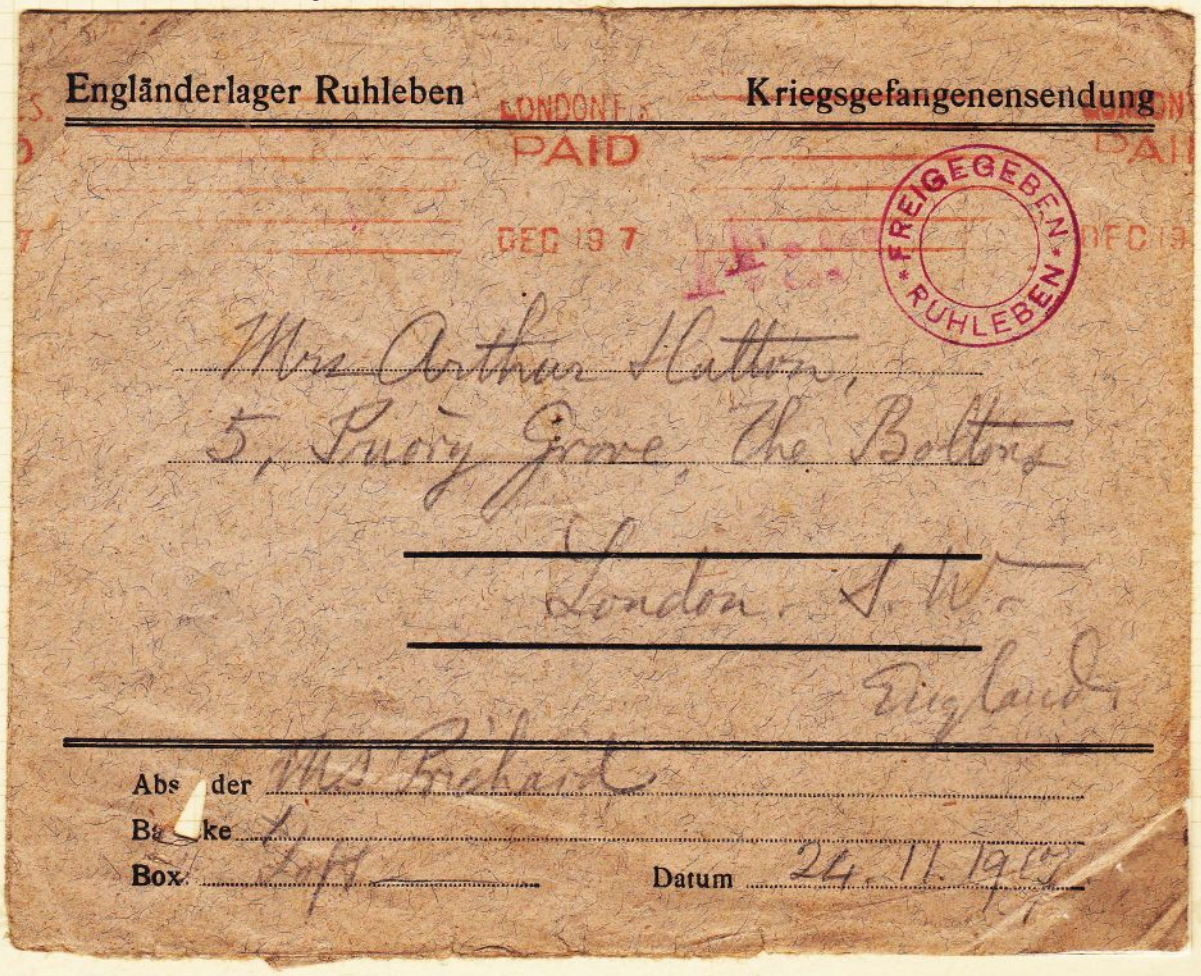
Engländerlager Ruhleben.

19.2.16 Card to camp from Würzburg.

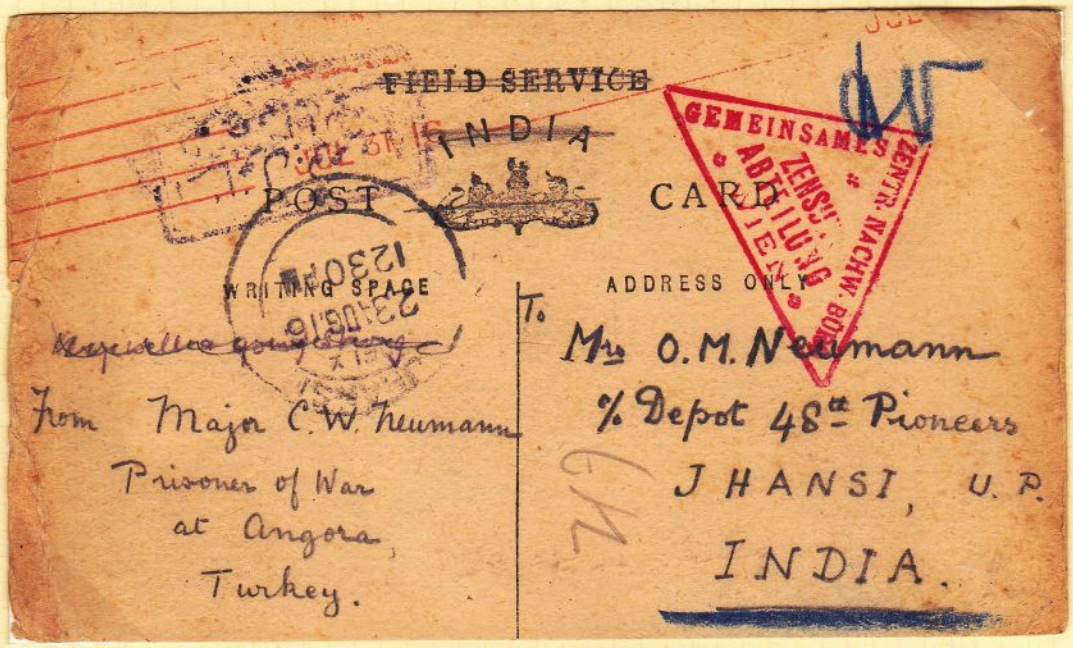


24.11.17 Cover to England received 19.12.17. G.B. Censors seal on reverse.



Turkey

1916, 25th June. Indian Field Service postcard from Angora to Jhansi, India. Boxed Turkish Istanbul Censor No 8 in violet, triangular Vienna censor in red. The card received a London paid transit 31st Jul 1916 and Jhansi receive 23rd Aug.

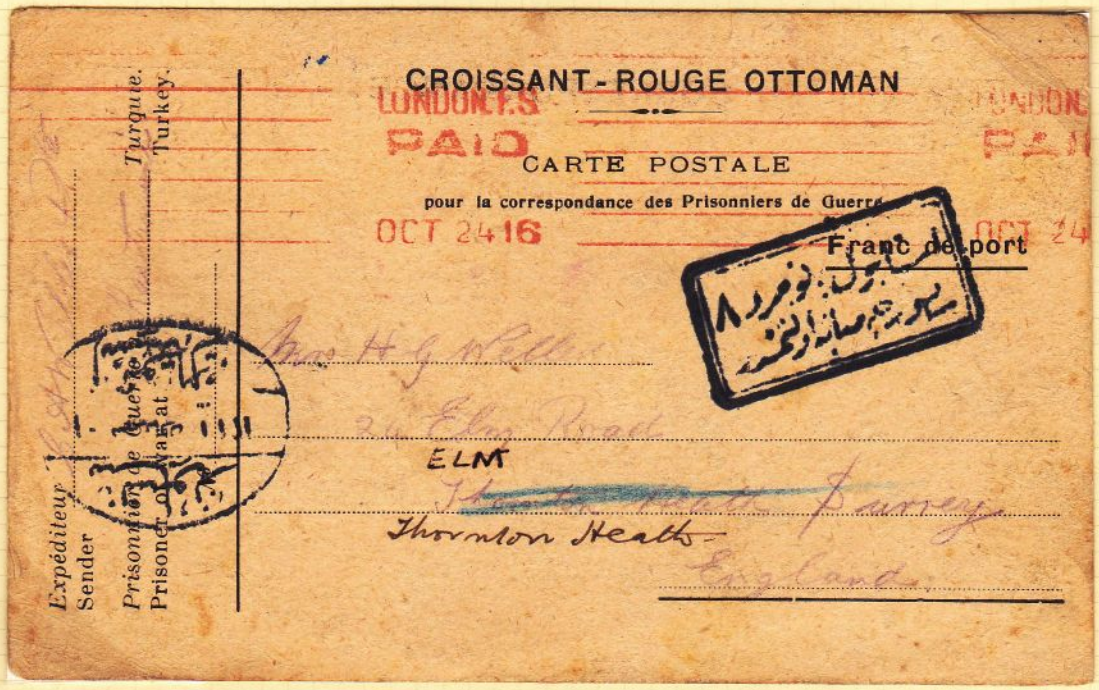


Maj. Neumann, 48th Pioneers left Kut in the 2nd Echelon of 90 British, 60 Indian Officers and 200 orderlies. This card was written en route to Karramuni which was reached on 7th July 1916.

The four line message describes his arrival in Angora 2 days ago and separation from his Moslem servant at Eskichehir.

Turkey

1916, 2nd Oct. postcard from Kastamuni to Thornton Heath, Croydon received 25th Oct. The formular postcard has bilingual instructions on the reverse, 'Please write only out (sic) the lines'. Double boxed Istanbul censor No 2 and oval marking, Wolter XIIIb.



Kastamuni became famous in 1917 when 4 prisoners escaped, crossing the Black Sea to the Crimea and returning to the UK by way of Russia, Sweden and Norway. As a result of the escape all prisoners were moved further inland to Tchangri and because of protests about conditions there to Yozgad.

An account of the escape may be found in Blackwoods Magazine for Jan 1918.

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Afion Kara thissar, Turkey

Cover from officer P.O.W. to Brighton, received London May 15 1918.

Afion was one of the earliest camps to be formed. At the date of this cover it held 100 British officers and 120 Russians lodged in empty houses in two groups. Still in his, 'A Prisoner in Turkey' describes reaching Afion in Feb'16 and finding one house with 9 French officers, another with 9-10 British officers — mainly Naval and the same number of Russians, while Russian Merchant seamen were held in the Mohammedan School.

By Oct. 1917 the British officers were in two groups, the larger c70 was in the Armenian quarter of the town with 8 French and a large number of Russian officers. The second group of about 40 lived in a block of houses outside the town on the road to the Stamboul railway station.

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Turkey

1918, Apr. 1st. Red Crescent formula postcard from Psamatia, Constantinople to Torquay, Devon. Double boxed Istanbul censor and London paid receiver 10th Jun.

CARTE POSTALE
pour la
Correspondance des Prisonniers de Guerre

W. G. Bowhay K 5186.
Prisoner of War No 6463, Psamatia, Constantinople
Turkey.

Mrs W. H. Bowhay
Stag Inn, Union Street, Torre
Torquay, Devon
England.

Easter Monday. April 1st 1918.

1918, May 6th. Postcard from Psamatia to UK with boxed Galata censor number 11.

CARTE POSTALE

LONDON E.S. FOREST HILL S.E.23 PAID 8. 45 PM AUG 27 18

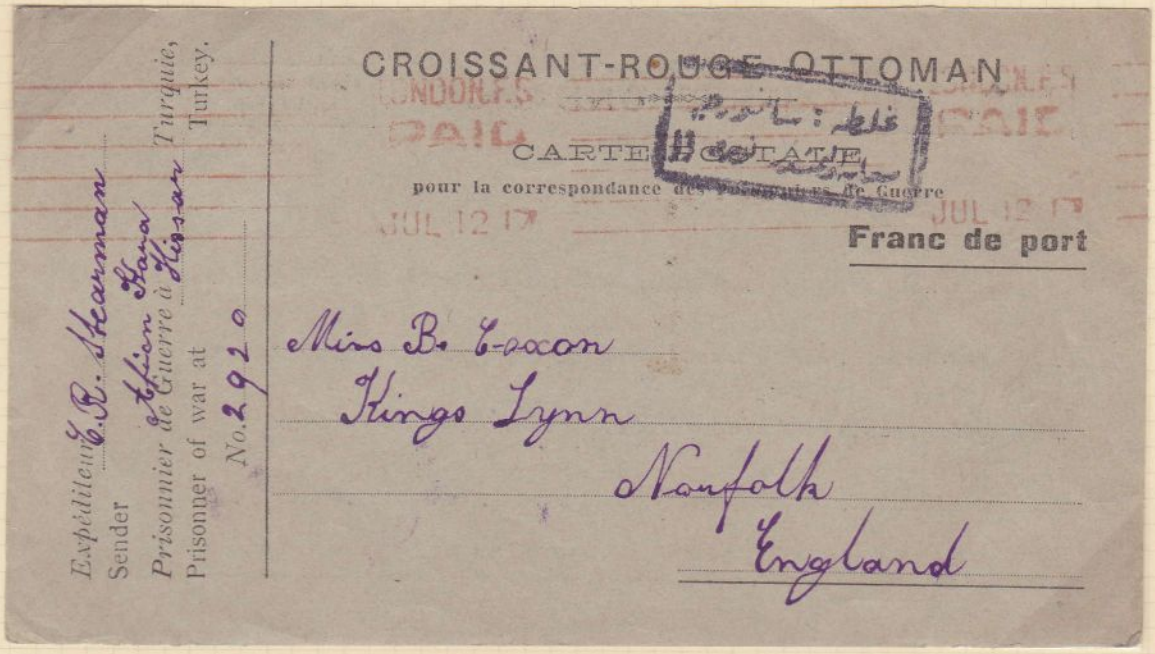
From
Lieut A. Lang
Sr T. Corps
British Prisoner of War
Psamatia
Constantinople
Turkey.
6. 5. 18.

To
D. Haydon Esq.
~~"Hinton Firs"~~
Railway Hotel
~~Honor Oak Road~~
Nr Woody Bay Station
~~London. S.E.~~
Barnstaple Devon
~~England.~~

29 Editeur

Turkey

1917, 20th May. Card from POW at Afion Kara Hissar to Kings Lynn. London Paid 12th July.


CROISSANT-ROUGE OTTOMAN

CARTE POSTALE

pour la correspondance des prisonniers de Guerre

Franc de port

Expéditeur / Sender: G. R. Steaman

Prisonnier de Guerre à / Prisoner of war at: Afion Hana Turquie, Turkey.

No. 2920

Miss B. Tacon
Kings Lynn
Norfolk
England

At the South base of the pinnacle is the Armenian church used as a prison for the rank and file for the last two years of the war, in addition to a building in the town known as 'Madrissah'.

Sandes, 'In Kut and Captivity with the 6th Ind. Div.'.

G. F. RAPKIN LTD.
PRINTED AND MADE IN ENGLAND

USA - INTERNMENT CAMPS

1941, 29th July. Censored Airmail cover from Wesermunde to a member of the Colombus crew at Fort Stanton, New Mexico.

The North German LLoyd liner Colombus was on a West Indies cruise when war broke out. The passengers were landed at Havana and the ship sought refuge in Vera Cruz, Mexico before attempting a voyage to Murmansk on the 14th September. She was scuttled off the US coast when HMS Hyperion found her and 577 crew were taken on board the USS Tuscaloosa and into internment. After stays at Ellis Island NY and Angel Island, San Francisco 420 men entered Fort Stanton in January 1941.

Stag Vittel, France

4.8.41 on Front Stalag 140, Belfor stationery.

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Correspondance des prisonniers de guerre

Geprüft 4 frontstalag 142

Postkarte Carte postale

Geprüft u. zur Beförderung zugelassen

Mademoiselle Lore KOHLBERG

Gebührenfrei! Franc de port!

Absender:
Expéditeur

Vor- und Zuname:
Nom et prénom
Mc TURK Dorothy

Gefangenennummer: Room 405
No. du prisonnier Grand Hotel

Lager-Bezeichnung:
Nom du camp
Front-Stalag 142
~~Bezeichnung~~ VITTEL
(Vosges)

Empfangsort: PARIS VI
Lieu de destination

~~Strasse:~~ 3 Rue du Montparnasse 3

Land: France
Landesteil (Provinz usw.)
Dépt (Seine)

26.12.41

26/12/41

(44)

Absender:
Expéditeur

Vor- und Zuname: Mc TURK Dorothy
Nom et prénom

Gefangenennummer: Room 405 Grand Hotel
No. du prisonnier

Lager-Bezeichnung: Internierten-Lager **Vittel** (Vosges)
Designation du camp

PEERLESS SERIES
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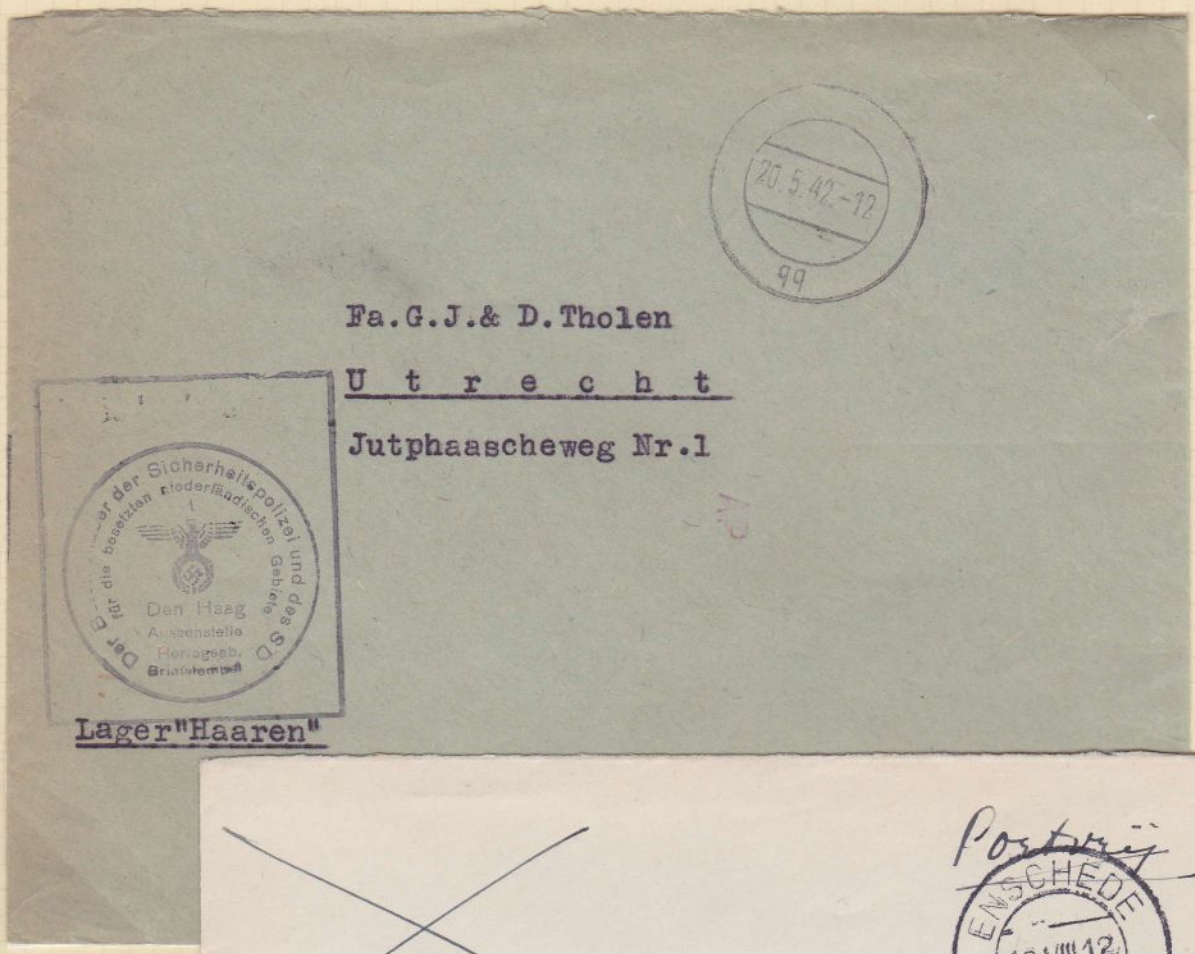
Netherlands

1942. Lager Haaren



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Ilag Biberach/Riss.

Postcard 29.9.43 postmarked 5.10.43. Received 27.10.43 in Guernsey C.I.

Interniertenpost

Postkarte

-5.10.43.10-11

Geprüft * Postüberwachung * Internierten... ach/Riß

Mr. Mrs BROWNING

Gebührenfrei! JH

Absender:

Vor- und Zuname: ROBERT SWINNEY

Internierten-nummer: B17/28 1085D

Lager-Bezeichnung: Internierungslager Biberach / Riss

Deutschland (Allemagne)

Empfangsort: ST. ANDREWS

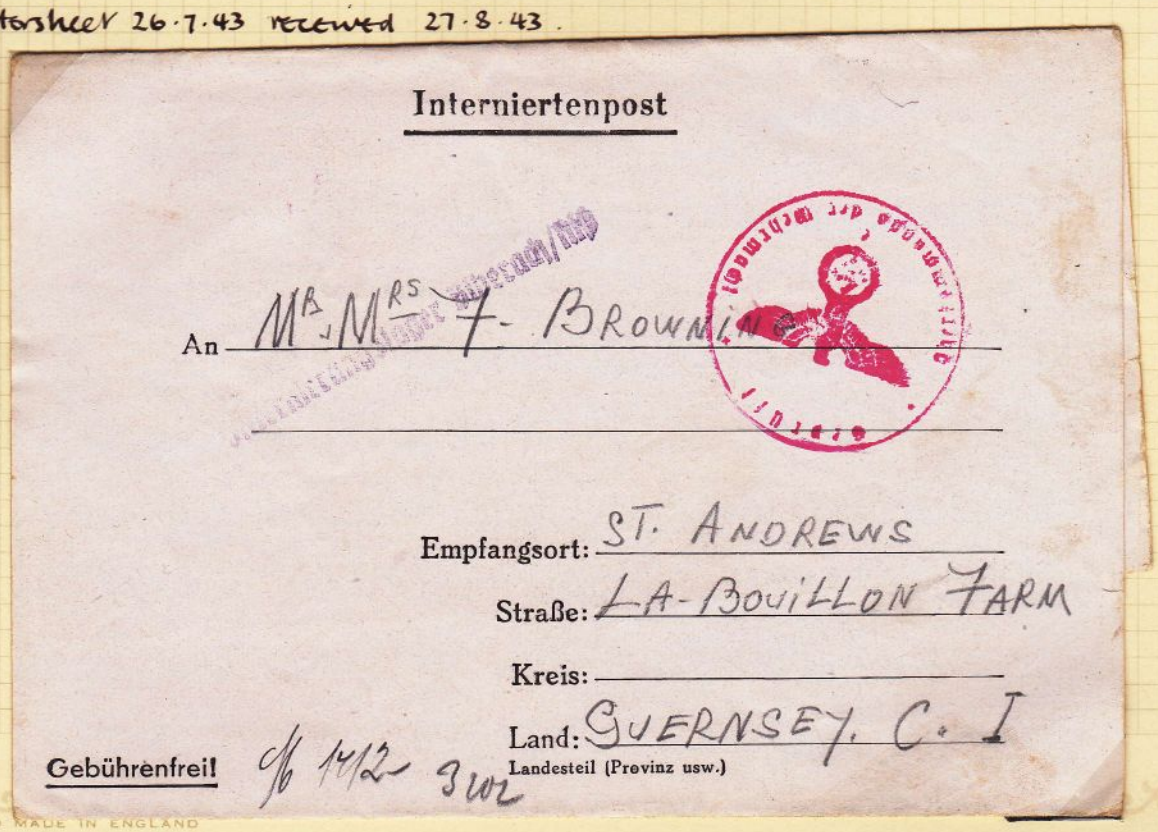
Straße: LE BOUILLON FARM

Land: GUERNSEY. C.I

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

From member of first group of Channel Island civilians deported Sept. 1942.

Letter sheet 26.7.43 received 27.8.43.



Interniertenpost

Geprüft Ilag Biberach/Riß

An Mr. Mrs F. BROWNING

Empfangsort: ST. ANDREWS

Straße: LA-BOUILLON FARM

Kreis:

Land: GUERNSEY. C. I

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

Gebührenfrei! 14/2 3 WZ

PRINTED AND MADE IN ENGLAND

Ilag - La Grande Caserne, St. Denis

CARTE POSTALE

PILBEAM, WILLIAM.
1523 Jnn. Z. I. LARGER.
St Denis
Seine
Best wishes
Bill

Cartes Postales imprimées en Eau-forte

Miss R. Eveleigh
35 Rue de Seine.
Paris 6e

N° 183 Fabrication Française

Je ne puis aller voir notre ami Monsieur Pilbeam jeudi prochain. Voulez-vous avoir l'amabilité de me remplacer ? La visite est à 10 heures. Monsieur Pilbeam vous parlera d'un ami de votre frère qui était dans le Midi de la France et vient d'être interné à St Denis.

Je sais que votre frère va mieux, mais que la santé de Madame votre mère vous inquiète. J'espère que cette inquiétude se dissipe.

Je vous prie d'agréer mes meilleurs sentiments. E. Crépin

Campo 85.

Letterscheet 29.1.43

Posta di prigioniero di guerra

3965

Al Mrs. A.G. Hay.
~~"St Helens"~~ ~~ELIE~~
~~FIFE~~ Plemont
Allington Park Bridport
Dorset
~~SCOTLAND~~

(5100164) Roma, 1942-XX - Ist. Poligr. Stato - G.U.

Card 5.4.43

POSTE ITALIANE
CARTOLINA POSTALE
PER PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA

ESENTE DA TASSE POSTALI

171/I

Mittente
(Sender's)
(Отправитель)
Cognome HAY.
(Surname)
(Фамилия)
Nome ALEXANDER
(Name)
(Имя)
Grado PTE. 6116
(Rank)
(Чин)
Campo p. g. 85. P.M. 3450
(P. of W. Camp.)
(Лагерь в. п.)
ITALIA.

Mrs. A.G. Hay.
~~"St Helens"~~ ~~ELIE~~
FIFE Belmont
Allington Pk
Bridport
Dorset
SCOTLAND.

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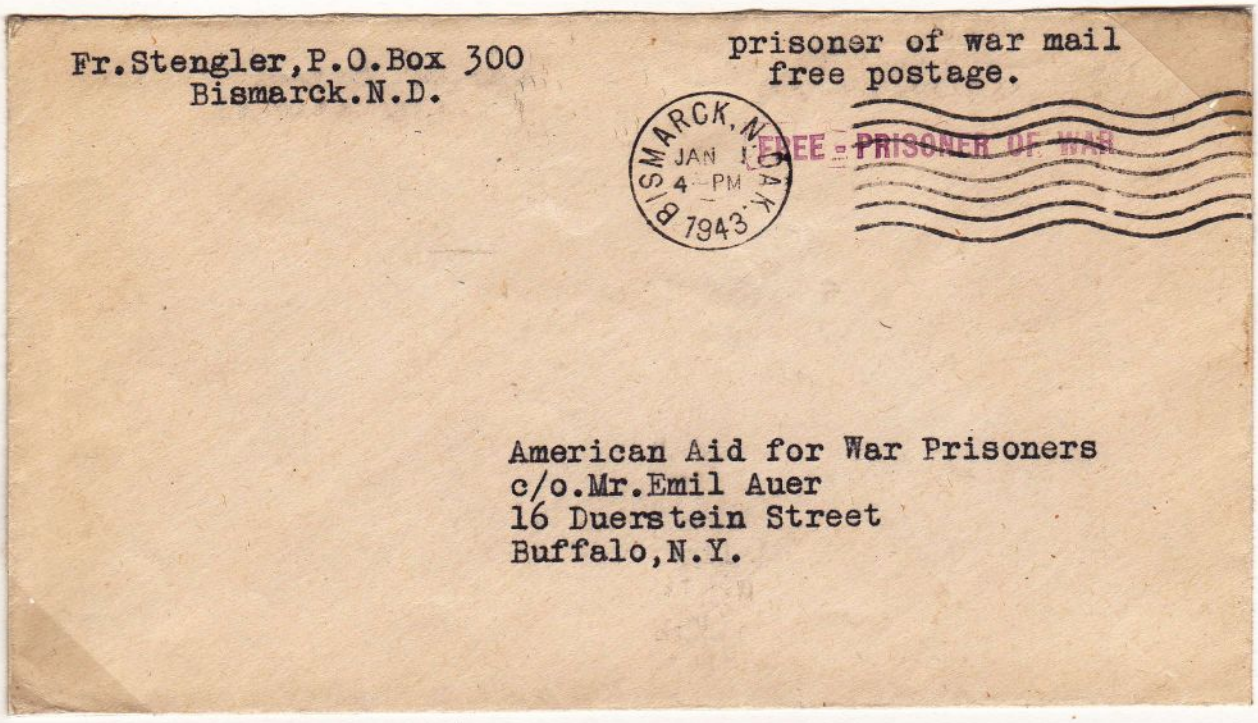
USA - INTERNMENT CAMPS

1943, 1st January. Cover from PO BOX 300, Bismarck, North Dakota - the undercover address for Fort Lincoln Internment Camp - to Buffalo.

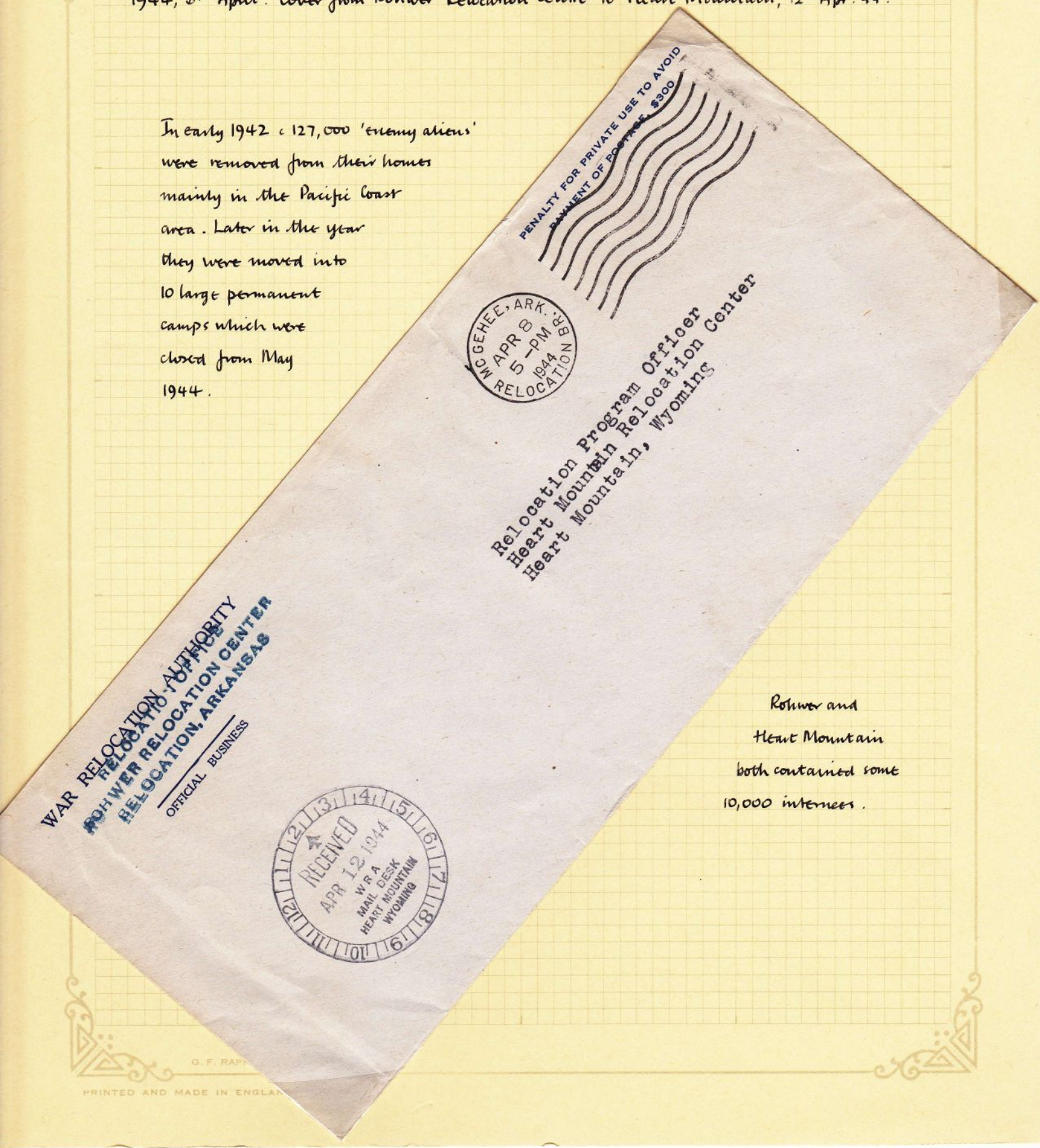


On March 30th 1941 the US Government seized 2 German ships in American ports. The Arauca with a crew of 42 had arrived at Port Everglades in December 1939 after HMS Orion had fired a shot across her bows. The crew were taken to Ellis Island NY and on 31st May 1941 they formed part of the group of 220 who arrived at Fort Lincoln, Bismarck, ND. Their Captain Frederick Stengler became Camp spokesman.

Japanese Relocation U.S.A.

1944, 8th April. Cover from Rohwer Relocation Centre to Heart Mountain, 12th Apr. '44.

In early 1942 c 127,000 'enemy aliens' were removed from their homes mainly in the Pacific Coast area. Later in the year they were moved into 10 large permanent camps which were closed from May 1944.



Rohwer and Heart Mountain both contained some 10,000 internees.

Army Corps Area VII – Munchen

Oflag VII C Laufen, Oberbayern. 20.1.41

Card to Villa Nova de Gaia, Portugal by Airmail, arriving 30.1.41 with Lisbon transit 29.1.41. Also bears British octagonal censorship mark.

Postage was free for POW's but it was possible to pay for airmail and cards usually bear a cachet recording the amount received. Use of stamps was uncommon.

This card was most probably forwarded to G.B. under cover or by special bag. The message refers to a Regimental scheme for expediting mail via Portugal.

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Army Corps Area VII – München

Stalag VIIA – Moosburg 25.6.44. Formed 25.9.39 and held 76,248 with 1,823 officers (7,975 British). Central point in S. Germany for the distribution of Red Cross parcels.

Aug. 5th

Kriegsgefangenenpost

STALAG VII A 55 Geprüft

Postkarte

PASSED P.W. 8980

An MRS. A.G. HAY.

Gebührenfrei!

Absender:

Vor- und Zuname: HAY · ALEXANDER.

Gefangenennummer: 113611

Lager-Bezeichnung: 3657.

M.-Stammlager VII A

Deutschland (Allemagne)

Empfangsort: ~~ELIE~~ ALLINGTON PARK

Straße: ~~FIFE~~ BRIDPORT DORSET

Land: ~~SCOTLAND.~~

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

An MRS. A.G. HAY.
"Plemont"

Empfangsort: Allington PARK.

Straße: BRIDPORT

Land: ENGLAND

Landesteil (Provinz usw.)

STALAG VII A 55 Geprüft

Gebührenfrei!

Pte A. Hay was captured in N. Africa 22.6.42. He was first held in Italy and moved to Germany in 1943. Editor of weekly paper 'Chink'.

PEERLESS SERIES
PRINTED AND MADE IN ENGLAND

P.O.W. Camp 95, Batford Camp, Harpenden, Herts. Letterheet sent 5.10.47 to Varel

PRISONER OF WAR POST.
SERVICE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE.
KRIEGSFANGENNENPOST.

TO
A
AN

HERRN KLAUS GIESBRECHT
(23) VAREL / Oldenburg
DROSTENSTR. 3
GERMANY
Britische Zone

P.O.W. CAMP No. 95 GREAT BRITAIN

Onchan Internment Camp, Douglas I-O-M. 10 JY 40 to London.

Sender, Wilhelm Kraus 32 Royal Avenue
Onchan, Douglas
I.O.M.

P.C. 66

OPENED BY
CENSOR
2860

PEERLESS SERIES

PRINTED AND MADE IN ENGLAND